

In the Specification

On page 1, lines 10-12 please replace the originally filed paragraph with the following:

A2  
The present invention relates to transparent film stacks of the type commonly applied to window glazings or the like and has particular utility in connection ~~with temperable~~, with temperable low emissivity coatings.

Also, on page 3, lines 4-10, please replace the originally filed paragraph with the following:

A2  
If the 5-layer Oyama et al. film stack were tempered at elevated temperatures, it is rather likely that the silver layers would be oxidized sufficiently to render the resulting coated glass article ~~unsalable~~ impossible to sell. Even if the film stack were modified to protect the silver layers, the tempering likely would reduce transmittance of the coating due to the development of a haze in the dielectric ZnO layers. The impact of this haze on the quality of the glass coating would depend on the tempering profile – longer times at elevated temperatures will further increase the hazing problem while shorter, cooler cycles will minimize (though not eliminate) the hazing problem.

Finally, on page 7, lines 15-23 and page 8, lines 1-7, please replace the originally filed paragraph with the following:

A2  
In order to protect the silver layer during application of subsequent layers and during any tempering operation, a first sacrificial layer 32 is desirably applied over and contiguous to the first reflective layer 30. The primary purpose of this sacrificial layer 32 is to protect the underlying infrared reflective layer 30 from chemical attack. Any material which is more readily oxidized than is the infrared reflective layer may be used as such a sacrificial layer. In most

commercial applications, a thin layer of titanium metal is applied, with the majority of that titanium metal being converted to a titanium oxide of varying stoichiometry during deposition of subsequent layers of the coating. In one particularly preferred embodiment, though, the sacrificial layer 32 comprises a layer of niobium deposited at a thickness sufficient to protect the reflective layer 30 from degradation both during sputtering of subsequent layers and from degradation during high temperature applications or tempering. Suitable thicknesses for such niobium layers range from 7-25Å, with a range of about 12-18Å being preferred. While this is not illustrated in Figure 1, such a niobium sacrificial layer may also be provided under the infrared reflective layer 30. Barrier layers of niobium used in transparent film stacks are discussed in some detail in ~~PCT International Publication No. WO 97/48649~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,060,178, the teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference.

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